identified critical roads, preparation of plants for development of affected areas to tackle the problem in a holistic manner, sharing of intelligence inputs on constant basis, providing help of Para Military Forces on need basis, etc., have also been taken and effectively followed-up.

TADA Cases in J&K

2195. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:
SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the "Times of India" dated 22nd February, 2000 under the caption 20000 TADA cases filed in J&K, but none convicted,

(b) the reasons as to why Government couldn't try 20,000 militants arrested under TADA in J&K state;

(c) whether Government are serious in following up the cases; and

(d) what steps Government would take to speed up the trial of cases so that hijacking of aircraft and such other things do not take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, the Government are aware of the media reports. As reported by State Government, a total of 16620 cases were registered in J&K since the inception of TADA(P) Act till 23.5.1995 when the Act lapsed. Out of this, till December 1999 only 02 cases were pending investigation and 52 cases were pending production in the court of law. The investigating agencies have been urged to ensure that pending cases are produced in the court of law at the earliest. The matter is regularly reviewed by a Committee under the Chief Secretary, J&K which has been constituted on the directions of the Apex court. The State Government has also been advised to follow up both investigation and prosecution of all cases against militants/ terrorists.

Autonomy to J&K

2196. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether J&K Chief Minister has asked the Central Government for giving autonomy to J&K State; and